

October 16, 2009

Charles Hoppin, Frances Spivy-Webber, Arthur Baggett, Tam Doduc State Water Resources Control Board 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Financing Solutions for USTCUF Payment Delays

Dear Board Members:

In response to the discussion regarding bridge financing that took place at the October 6, 2009 Board Meeting, I felt the need to make recommendations directly to the Board as they relate to this issue.

Since 1998, EnviroCap, LLC has over funded over \$500 million of UST cleanup in over 20 states thus providing us a unique perspective on the concept of bridge financing. I personally have over 20 years experience directly with State Trust Funds with not only EnviroCap, but also with a national consulting firm (now operating as Shaw Environmental).

As a financial institution, we must address the following issues when deciding if and how much we can advance on a Trust Fund Claim:

- 1. Can the claim be legally pledged by our client?
- 2. Is the Claim/RR eligible and better yet, how much has been approved for payment?
- 3. When will the Claim/RR be paid?
- 4. Will the Fund payment be sent directly to EnviroCap or will it pass through the hands of the Consultant and/or Responsible Party?

Our contractual agreements and processes address the first item (as well as bankruptcy, UCC filings, etc.). In past years, issues #2 and #3 have been relatively predictable with the California program. However, for item #4, we have had to "take it on faith" that the Fund payment would be send directly to EnviroCap through an Address Change Form completed by the Claimant. However, due to the fragile state of the economy and credit markets, it is more critical than ever for the Fund to provide tools to address item #'s 2 to 4.

The DFA has made strides since March 2009 to address item #2 and #3 by posting the approved payment amounts and their position in the payment queue to achieve greater transparency, however, there is still room for improvement by making the information available in "real time" while being accurate and not overly burdensome on DFA staff resources.

As a member of the Cleanup Fund Task Force, I can report that the issue of "bridge financing" has been discussed on many occasions. We have been told by Allan Patton on more than one occasion that they are "working on a resolution" to having the payments assigned to a financial

institution, but to date we have not been provided any work papers to show us what is being proposed as a solution.

I have drafted a proposed form entitled "Assignment of Payment Form" (copy attached) that my firm believes will greatly assist Responsible Parties and environmental consultants secure financing of their "IOU's" from the Cleanup Fund. In preparing this document I reviewed similar documents (assignment contracts, direction to pay forms, etc.) from other cleanup programs (CT, IL, MA, TN & TX).

Based on my past experience with other programs and listening to difficulties these past months that the DFA staff faces as they review and process reimbursement requests, I have also made suggested modifications to the existing Reimbursement Request (RR) form. This updated form incorporates and references if an Assignment of Payment Form is in place and would improve efficiencies at the staff level; modifications to the existing RR form are in red type.

I intend to present both of the attached documents to the Task Force at our upcoming meeting on October 19th, and in the interest of information sharing and efficiency, I am copying certain executive staff at the Fund and CIOMA.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of these suggestions, as well as your continued support of the Task Force and our efforts. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

Sincere Regards,

EnviroCap, LLC

Barbara J. Dunn

Chief Operating Officer

Attachments

cc via email: Dorothy Rice, Executive Director, drice@waterboards.ca.gov Barbara Evoy, Deputy Director, bevoy@waterboards.ca.gov

Allan Patton, Assistant Deputy Director, apatton@waterboards.ca.gov Ron Duff, Manager UST Cleanup Fund, rduff@waterboards.ca.gov

Jay McKeeman, CIOMA, jaymck@cioma.com

Markus Niebanks, Task Force Chairman, markus@amicusenv.com

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK CLEANUP FUND

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State Water Resources Control Board Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund

Assignment of Payment Form

CLAIMANT NAME:		CLAIM NO.:
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₁ I agree t	hat my assignee may have ac	ccess to all documents necessary to substantiate any claim for poliance with applicable law and agency rules.
		ects with both my assignee and the SCWRCB to assure assure compliance with appliable statute and agency rules.
	inting the party named above ty and no one else.	e to receive payment on my behalf, I direct the SWRCB to pay
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CLAIMANT SIGNATURE		DATE
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EXISTING ASSIGNEE SIGNATURE		DATE

DATE

EXISTING ASSIGNEE NAME, TITLE (TYPE OR PRINT)